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**Title:**

Press release: Kangaroo Island dispute

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PRESS RELEASE FROM THE PREMIER, MR. DUNSTAN.

KANGAROO ISLAND DISPUTE.

18.7.72

The various factions of the Liberal & Country League had been more concerned with scoring cheap political points than with securing industrial peace throughout the Kangaroo Island dispute, the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, said today.

"The plain fact is that the L.C.L. wants industrial unrest for the most cynical political motives, and is prepared to ferment it", Mr. Dunstan said.

"The Government has had just one interest throughout this dispute - to provide what assistance it can to end it."

"Happily an end is now in sight."

"This should be a cause for gratification by all sections of the community."

"Instead, the L.C.L. is continuing to stir the pot and now endeavours to switch the attack to our decision to pay Mr. Woolley's costs which were awarded against Mr. Dunford."

"In doing so they are quite willing to completely disregard the fact that, had this action not been taken, South Australia would have faced a general strike costing many, many times more and bringing hardship to all South Australians."

"They also claim that payment of costs was unprecedented."  
"This is nonsense."

"Last April the Federal Attorney-General, Senator Greenwood, agreed to make ex-gratia payments totalling more than \$11,000 in respect of court action against an official of the Australian Workers Union (Allan versus Barnes and others)."

"The other matter that distresses me in this episode is that although it was a Federal award which was in dispute on Kangaroo Island, and although Federal Ministers were contacted, it was left to the State Government to make a settlement."

"This is why I find the conclusion that the motives of the Opposition are blatantly political to be inescapable."

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